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PATENT-DRAFT

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-5 and add claims 6-24.

1-5 (cancelled)

- 6. (new) A process for stabilizing a pyrene actin composition comprising:
 - a) concentrating the pyrene actin composition; and
 - b) mixing the concentrated pyrene actin composition with sucrose and a stabilizing agent.
- 7. (new) The process of claim 6 further comprising mixing a reducing agent to the composition of step b).
- 8. (new) The process of claim 6, wherein the composition of step b) is rapidly frozen.
- 9. (new) The process of claim 8, wherein said frozen composition is lyophilized.
- 10. (new) The process of claim 7 wherein said reducing agent is dithiothreitol.
- 11. (new) The process of claim 10, wherein the concentration of dithiothreitol is 10 mM.
- 12. (new) The process of claim 8, wherein said composition is rapidly frozen in liquid nitrogen or a dry ice ethanol bath.
- 13. (new) The process of claim 6, wherein said stabilizing agent is dextran.
- 14. (new) The process of claim 9, wherein the composition is lyophilized for 40 hours over a temperature from -40 °C to 30 °C.

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- 15. (new) The process of claim 6, wherein said pyrene actin is concentrated to 0.2 to 40 mg/ml.
- 16. (new) The process of claim 6, wherein said pyrene actin is concentrated to greater than 10 mg/ml.
- 17. (new) The process of claim 6 wherein said composition comprises ATP and CaCl₂.
- 18. (new) The process of claim 6 wherein said sucrose is present in amount of 5% w/v.
- 19. (new) The process of claim 6 wherein said stabilizing agent is present in an amount of 1% w/v.
- 20. (new) The process of claim 9 further comprising:a) resuspending the lyophilized actin of claim 9 in A-buffer; andb) incubating said resuspended actin on ice.
- 21. (new) The method of claim 20 wherein said resuspended actin is centrifuged.
- 22. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein said actin is centrifuged at 100,000 x g.
- 23. (new) A composition comprising pyrene actin, ATP, sucrose, and a stabilizing agent.
- 24. (new) The composition of claim 23 wherein said pyrene actin is present in an amount of greater than 10 mg/ml.